

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A rotor, disposed with an unbalance correcting mechanism and around which a sheet member is wound and fixed, comprising:

(a) a rotor body, including an axis of rotation and a peripheral surface for supporting the sheet member;

(b) a chuck device for pressing a leading edge and a trailing edge of the sheet member against the peripheral surface of the rotor body, the chuck device including a first chuck and a second chuck and having a first mode, in which the first chuck is attached to the rotor body and the second chuck is apart from the rotor body, and a second mode, in which both the first and second chucks are attached to the rotor body;

(c) a main balancer attached to the rotor body and having a first relative positional relation with the first chuck; and

(d) a sub-balancer attached to the rotor body and having a second relative positional relation with the second chuck in the second mode;

wherein the main balancer and the sub-balancer increase unbalance of the rotor in the first mode and reduce unbalance of the rotor in the second mode.

2. The rotor of claim 1, wherein the main balancer

has a constant relative angle (θ_1) around the axis of rotation with respect to the first chuck.

3. The rotor of claim 1, further comprising a chuck holder swingable around the axis of rotation, with the second chuck being attachable to the rotor body via the chuck holder.

4. The rotor of claim 3, wherein the chuck holder is fixable and releasable at a desired position around the axis of rotation.

5. The rotor of claim 4, wherein the chuck holder is fixed at respective positions in a circumferential direction of the rotor body in accordance with lengths of different-sized sheet members.

6. The rotor of claim 3, wherein the sub-balancer is positioned at a constant relative angle (θ_2) around the axis of rotation with respect to the chuck holder.

7. The rotor of claim 6, wherein the sub-balancer and the chuck holder are integrally connected to each other.

8. The rotor of claim 1, wherein the first chuck is a leading edge chuck for pressing the leading edge of the sheet member and the second chuck is a trailing edge chuck for pressing the trailing edge of the sheet member.

9. The rotor of claim 1, wherein the sheet member is a printing plate.

10. The rotor of claim 1, wherein the rotor is a drum for fixing the sheet member at the time the sheet member is scan-exposed.

11. The rotor of claim 1, further comprising an urging structure for using the second chuck to pull the sheet member along a circumferential direction of the rotor body when the sheet member is pressed by the second chuck.

12. An apparatus for forming an image on a printing plate, comprising:

(I) a drum around which a printing plate is taken up and fixed, the drum including

(a) a drum body, including an axis of rotation and a peripheral surface for supporting the sheet member,

(b) a chuck device for pressing a leading edge

and a trailing edge of the sheet member against the peripheral surface of the drum body, the chuck device including a first chuck and a second chuck and having a first mode, in which the first chuck is attached to the drum body and the second chuck is apart from the drum body, and a second mode, in which both the first and second chucks are attached to the drum body,

(c) a main balancer attached to the drum body and having a first relative positional relation with the first chuck, and

(d) a sub-balancer attached to the drum body and having a second relative positional relation with the second chuck in the second mode,

wherein the main balancer and the sub-balancer increase unbalance of the rotor in the first mode and reduce unbalance of the rotor in the second mode;

(II) a section for feeding the printing plate to the drum;

(III) a section for rotating the drum;

(IV) a section for recording an image onto the printing plate wound around the periphery of the drum body; and

(V) a section for detaching the printing plate from the drum.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the main balancer has a constant relative angle (θ_1) around the axis of rotation with respect to the first chuck.

14. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising a chuck holder swingable around the axis of rotation, with the second chuck being attachable to the drum body via the chuck holder.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the chuck holder is fixable and releasable at a desired position around the axis of rotation.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the chuck holder is fixed at respective positions in a circumferential direction of the drum body in accordance with lengths of different-sized sheet members.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the sub-balancer is positioned at a constant relative angle (θ_2) around the axis of rotation with respect to the chuck holder.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the sub-balancer and the chuck holder are integrally

connected to each other.

19. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first chuck is a leading edge chuck for pressing the leading edge of the printing plate and the second chuck is a trailing edge chuck for pressing the trailing edge of the printing plate.

20. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising an urging structure for using the second chuck to pull the sheet member along a circumferential direction of the drum body when the sheet member is pressed by the second chuck.